

JUDGE'S CHAMBERS
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
104 Federal Building & United States Courthouse
180 West Main Street
ABINGDON, VIRGINIA 24210

James P. Jones
United States District Judge

February 17, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO INTERESTED PARTIES
REGARDING BIG STONE GAP COURTHOUSE

The purpose of this memo is to advise interested parties of the reduction in daily deputy clerk service at the C. Bascom Slemp Courthouse and Federal Building in Big Stone Gap, Virginia.

At the present time, only one deputy clerk serves the clerk's office in Big Stone Gap. Because of budgetary concerns, the number of deputy clerks in the Abingdon clerk's office has also been reduced. Based on the relative caseloads, it has been determined to transfer the deputy clerk in Big Stone Gap to Abingdon, except on those occasions when actual court proceedings are held in Big Stone Gap. This change will be effective March 5, 2012.

On those days when there is no deputy clerk present in Big Stone Gap, telephone calls to the Big Stone Gap clerk's office will be automatically transferred to the Abingdon clerk's office. Those wishing to personally visit the Big Stone Gap clerk's office should call ahead of time to inquire if the office is open. To ensure prompt delivery, mail and other deliveries for the Big Stone Gap clerk's office should be sent directly to the Abingdon clerk's office. The Abingdon mailing and shipping address is 180 West Main Street, Room 104, Abingdon, VA 24210.

This action does not reflect any determination by the Court to close the Big Stone Gap courthouse or reduce court proceedings there. The judges of the Court intend to continue to try cases at the Big Stone Gap Courthouse and otherwise provide court services as needed to the citizens of the area. The Court's Probation Office will continue to be fully staffed in the Big Stone Gap Courthouse.

Questions may be directed to Libby Stokes, Operations Manager, (276) 628-5116, libbys@vawd.uscourts.gov.